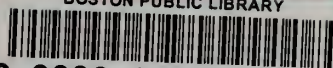
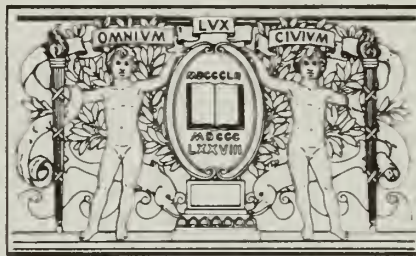


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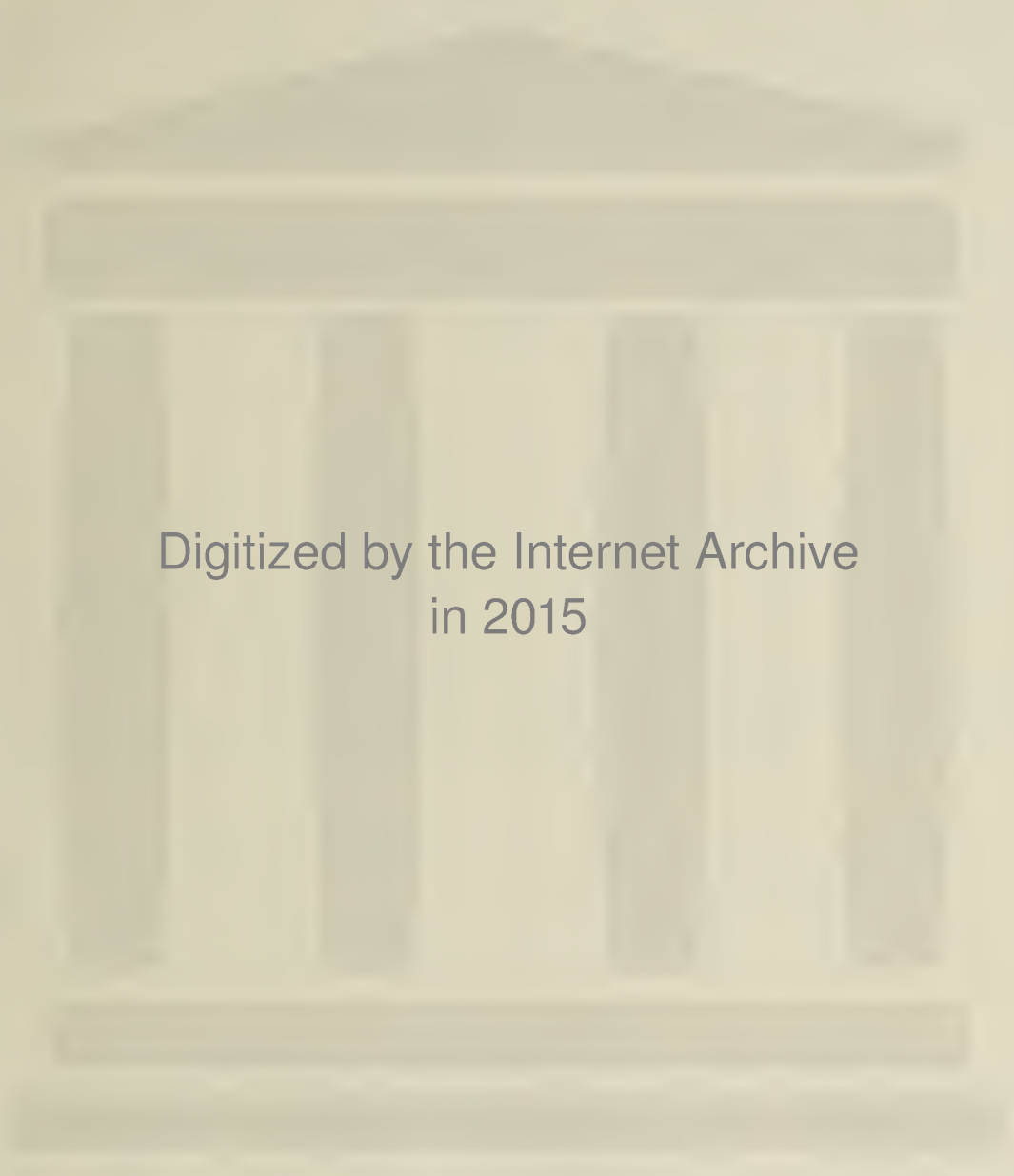


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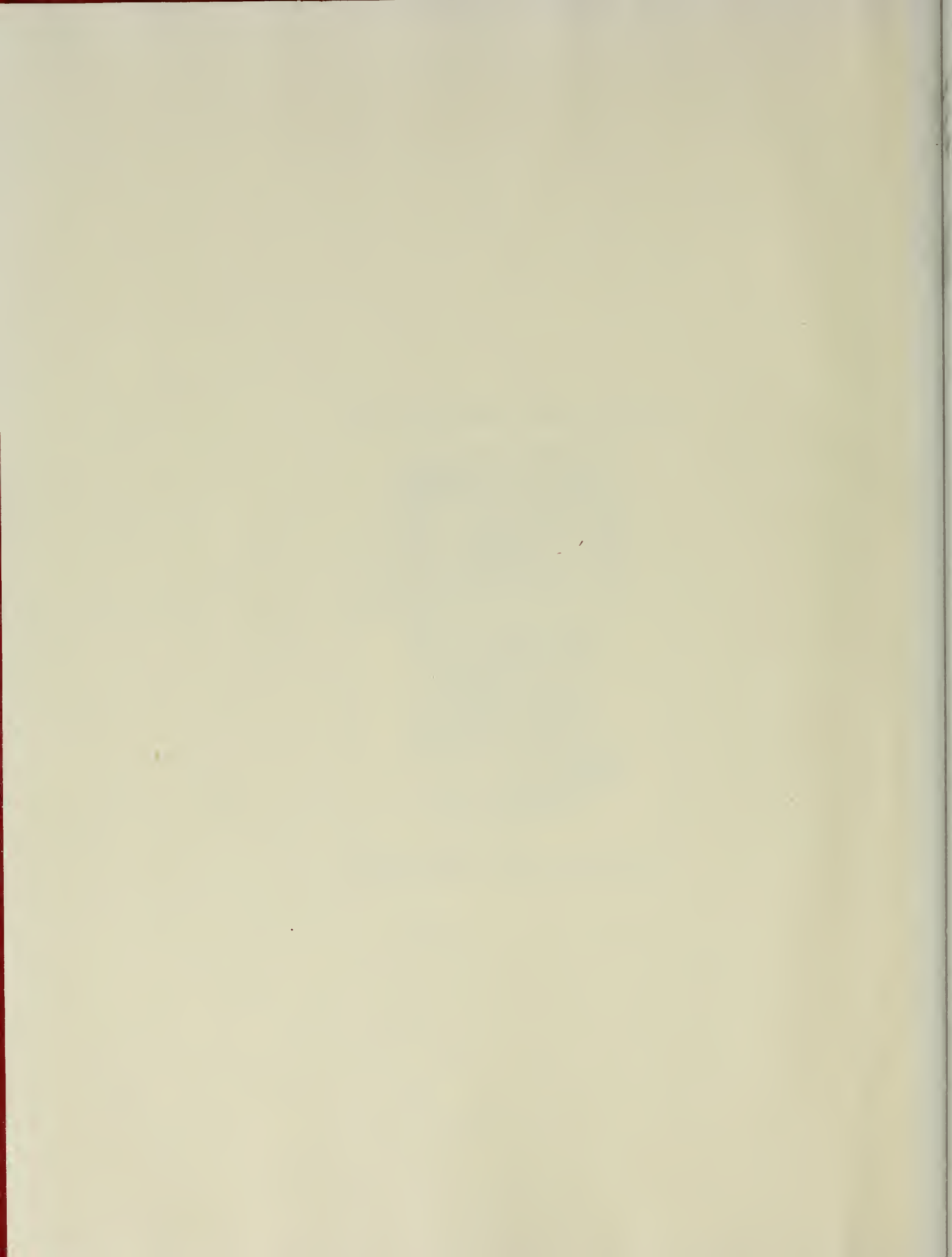
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Boston Police Department
Research and Analysis Unit
Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted in the Line of Duty

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The pages which follow outline the frequency with which Boston Police Officers are assaulted in the line of duty, the types of assaults to which they are subject, the circumstances leading to the assault and frequency of assault by Command Area. This report, based on incident report data from 1980 through 1989 and injury report data (entitled LEOKA) from 1989, provides an overview of criminal assaultive behavior on police officers. This report also provides a summary of the number of Boston Police Officers who have been killed in the line of duty as a result of assaults or tragic accidents.

It is important to note that the enclosed measures of assault on police officers are low estimates at best: in many cases officers do not file assault reports unless an injury has occurred to the officer. Yet while the assault figures provided are low estimates, they nonetheless provide a useful barometer as to the types of assaults which are occurring and in what circumstances.

Based upon the ten year review, assaults on Boston Police Officers have increased forty-nine percent (+49%) with more than one thousand (1,079) assaults reported in this ten year period. Firearm assaults more than doubled (+110%) with one hundred and five such assaults reported over the ten year period. Two of these firearm assaults resulted in the senseless deaths of two veteran Boston Police Officers; Detective Roy J. Sergei and Detective Sherman Griffiths. Detective Thomas J. Gill and Officer Louis H. Metaxas also died in the line of duty as a result of tragic accidents. The loss of these four officers in the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 marked the first such line of duty deaths for the Boston Police Department since 1976.

In 1989 assaults on police officers increased eight percent (+8%) with a dramatic increase in firearm assaults contributing to this overall 1989 increase. In 1989 firearm assaults on police officers increased thirty-one percent (+31%). Sixty-seven percent (67%) of the citywide firearm assaults in 1989 occurred in Command Area B.

Forty-three percent (43%) of calls in which an officer was assaulted in 1989 occurred while the officer was attempting an arrest. Disturbance calls were the second most frequent call type to result in an assault on an officer. Disturbance calls precipitated by domestic violence incidents are the most common of disturbance calls. Twelve percent (12%) of assaults occurred while officers were responding to a disturbance call.

Sixty-two percent (62%) of officers assaulted and injured in 1989 were assigned to two person vehicles, while nineteen percent (19%) were assigned to one person vehicles. Fifteen percent (15%) were performing other duties such as paid details while the remaining five percent (5%) were assigned to investigative or special assignments.

ASSAULTS ON BOSTON POLICE OFFICERS
1980 TO 1989

Attached please find an analysis of Boston Police Officers assaulted for the years 1980 through 1989. Assaults on police officers by all weapon types, increased forty-nine percent (+49%) from 1980 to 1989. Total assaults in this ten year period ranged from a low of sixty-eight (68) in 1982 to one hundred and fifty-five (155) in 1989. Of the more than one thousand (1079) assaults on Boston Police Officers in the last decade nineteen percent (19%, 208), were in the category of hands, fists and feet. More than one hundred (105, 10%) were committed with firearms and another one hundred and one (101, 9%) were committed with knives. The remainder of assaults, numbering 665, involved other types of weapons including blunt instruments, automobiles, bottles, etc.. The majority of assaults, sixty-two percent (62%), involved "other" weapons.

1980 VERSUS 1989

In the ten year period from 1980 to 1989 assaults on Boston Police Officers increased forty-nine percent (+49%) overall. The largest increase in assaults by weapon type in this time period were reported in the category of guns. From 1980 to 1989 assaults on Boston Police Officers with guns rose one hundred and ten percent (110%). At the same time assaults with knives rose thirty-six percent (+36%). The only known weapon type to show a decrease in the last decade was hands, fists, and feet which reported a seventy-nine percent decrease (-79%) in frequency. The category of "other" weapon type showed a ninety-three percent increase (+93%) in incidence in the last ten years.

1988 VERSUS 1989

When comparing 1988 to 1989 an overall increase of eight percent (+8%) was reported for assaults of all weapon types. As with the 1980 to 1989 comparison, the largest increase in assaults on Boston Police Officers by weapon type was with guns. From 1988 to 1989 gun assaults increased thirty-one percent (+31%). The only weapon category to show a decrease was knives which were involved in seventeen percent fewer (-17%) assaults on police officers. In the category of other weapon type, a nine percent increase (+9%) in assaults was reported from 1988 to 1989.

AREA A

Area A reported a thirty-five percent decrease (-35%) in assaults on police officers from 1980 to 1989. Overall there were twenty (20) assaults on Boston Police Officers in 1980 and thirteen (13) in 1989. When comparing 1988 to 1989, assaults on police officers in area A decreased fifty-four percent (-54%). Area A reported a decade high of twenty-eight (28) assaults in 1988. During the ten year period of analysis, officers in Area A reported fourteen percent of citywide reported assaults.

AREA B

The Command Area with the highest number of assaults throughout the decade, with the exception of the years 1983 and 1985, is Area B. During 1989 Area B reported a decade high of seventy assaults on police officers, a figure which represents the highest number of assaults reported in any Command Area during the past decade. Of the seventy assaults, twenty percent (20%) involved firearms. Firearm assaults increased 367% from 1980 to 1989 in Command Area B. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of citywide firearm assaults on officers occurred in Area B in 1989. There were only thirty-three (33) assaults reported in Area B in 1980. Thus, the 1989 figure represents an alarming one hundred and twelve percent increase (+112%) in assaults on Boston Police Officers, in Area B over the last ten years. From 1988 to 1989, a nine percent increase (+9%) in assaults was reported. Sixty-four (64) assaults occurred in 1988 while seventy (70) occurred in 1989. There were a total of four hundred and seven (407) assaults on Boston Police Officers in Area B from 1980 to 1989.

AREA C

Area C reported an overall increase of thirty-six percent (+36%) in assaults on Boston Police Officers from 1980 to 1989. The decade high of thirty (30) assaults was reported in 1989 as compared to twenty-two (22) in 1980. A comparison of 1988 to 1989 indicated a fifty-eight percent increase (+58%) in assaults on police officers, rising from nineteen (19) in 1988 to the high of thirty (30) in 1989. Area C reported fourteen percent (14%) of citywide firearm assaults on officers during 1989. Area C, unlike Area B, reported a marginal increase (+1 incident) in firearm assaults from 1980 to 1989 and from 1988 to 1989. Over the past decade, Area C has reported seventeen percent (17%) of citywide assaults on officers.

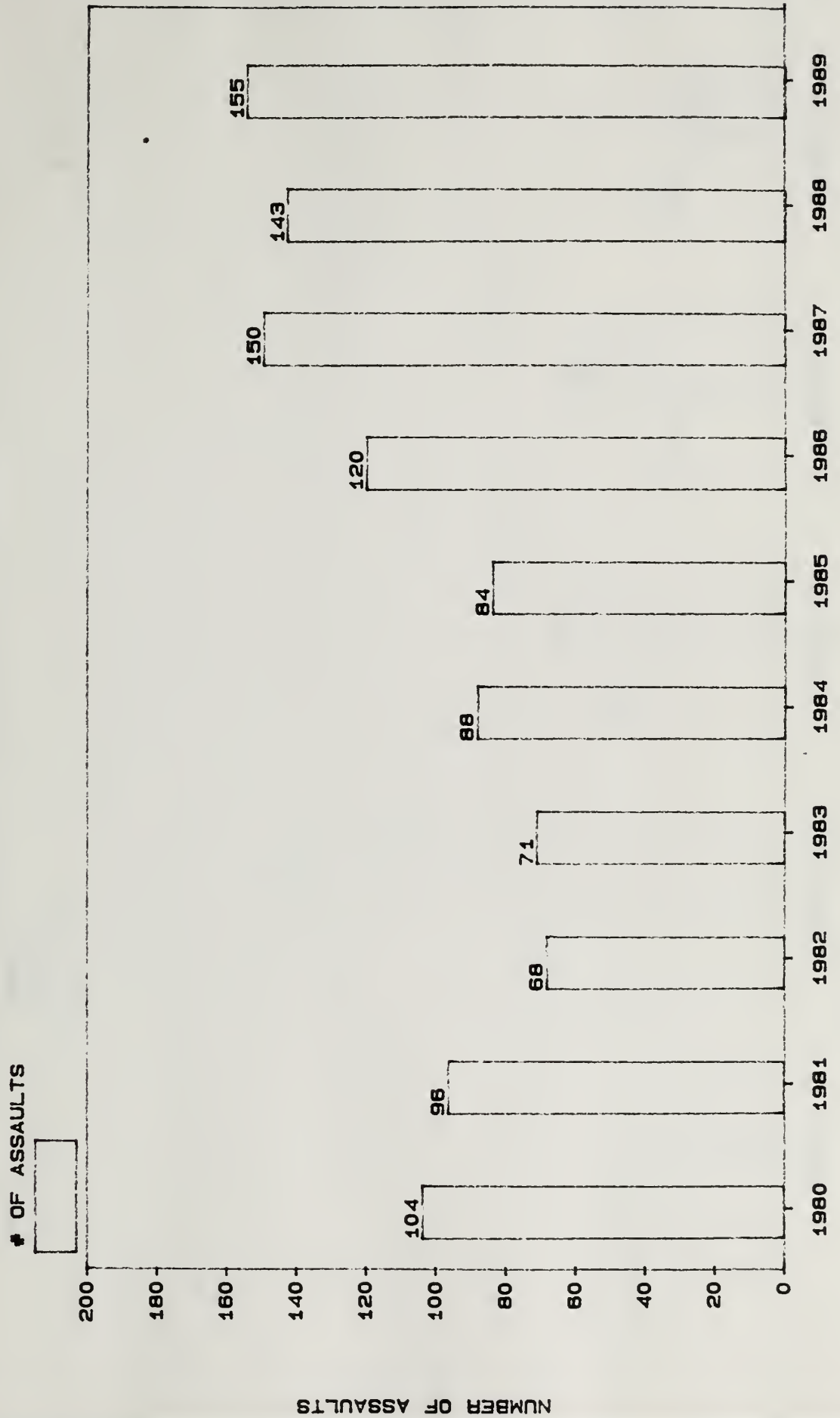
AREA D

Area D showed the second highest increase in assaults on Boston Police Officers in the last ten years. Fourteen (14) assaults were reported in 1980 and twenty-eight (28) in 1989. This represents a one hundred percent increase (+100%) in assaults over the past decade. An increase of sixty-five percent (+65%) was reported from 1988 to 1989. There were seventeen (17) assaults on Boston Police Officers in 1988 and twenty-eight (28) in 1989. Area D reported nineteen percent (19%) of citywide assaults on officers during the 1980's.

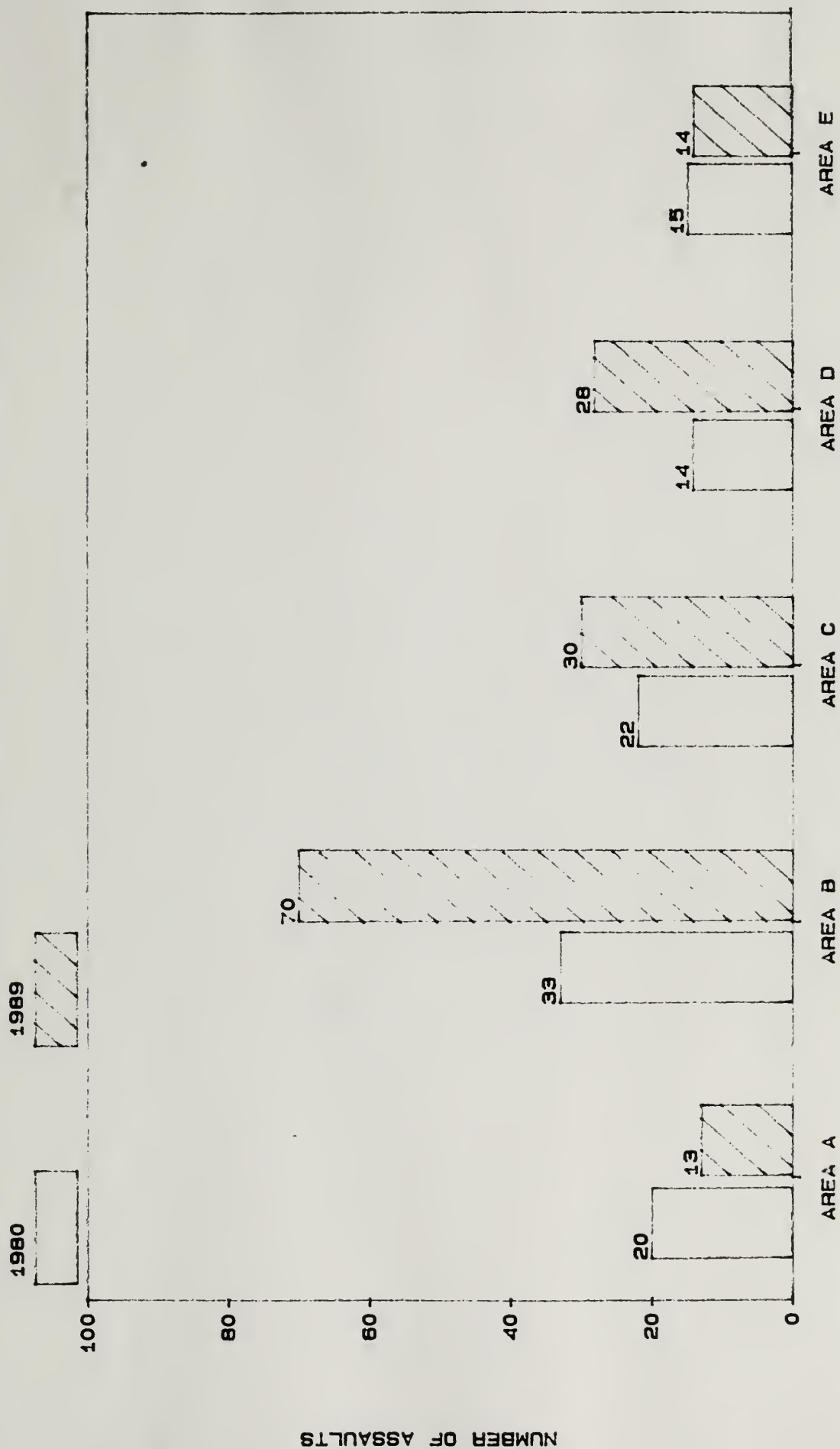
AREA E

Area E, being the only other area besides Area A to have reported a decrease in assaults, reported an overall decrease of seven percent (-7%, -1 assault) in assaults on Boston Police Officers. There were a total of fifteen (15) assaults in 1980 as compared to fourteen (14) in 1989. In 1988 there were also a total of fifteen (15) assaults on Boston Police Officers reported in Area E compared to 1989's fourteen (14) assaults.

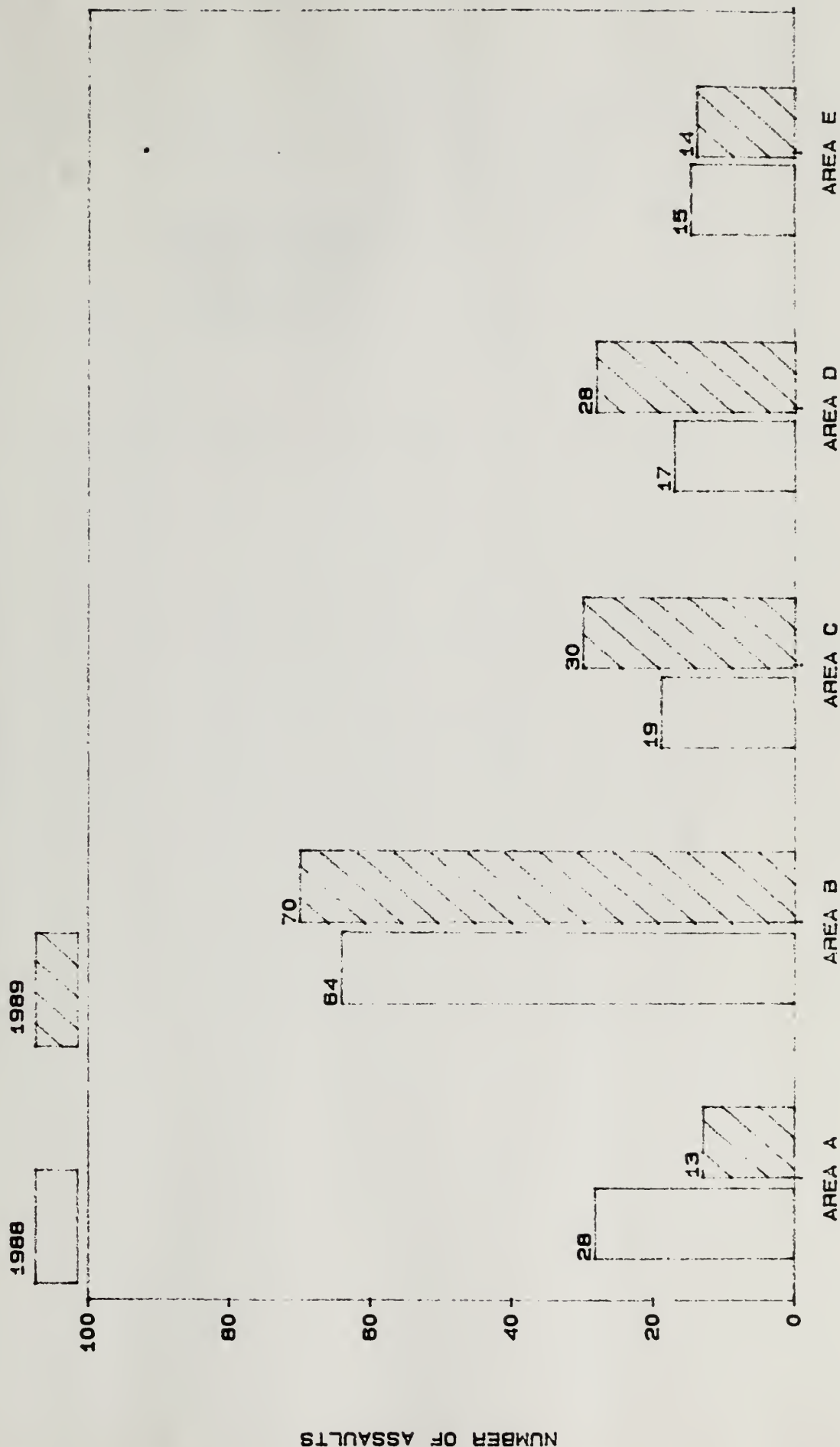
BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED
1980 THROUGH 1989



BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED BY AREA, 1980 VERSUS 1989



BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED BY AREA, 1988 VERSUS 1989



BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED
BY YEAR AND DISTRICT
1980 THROUGH 1989

DISTRICT	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	TOTAL
1	17	15	7	5	5	9	6	17	18	6	105
7	3	2	6	1	1	0	4	7	8	4	36
15	0	3	0	2	2	0	1	0	2	3	13
A	20	20	13	8	8	9	11	24	28	13	154
2	23	21	16	16	29	22	33	44	39	56	299
3	10	9	6	0	8	6	12	18	25	14	108
B	33	30	22	16	37	28	45	62	64	70	407
6	3	4	3	5	2	1	5	7	4	6	40
11	19	19	5	15	7	9	19	11	15	24	143
C	22	23	8	20	9	10	24	18	19	30	183
4	10	12	16	4	21	19	18	11	15	22	148
14	4	5	3	2	8	12	4	7	2	6	53
D	14	17	19	6	29	31	22	18	17	28	201
5	7	3	4	11	1	2	7	17	7	6	65
13	8	3	2	10	4	4	11	11	8	8	69
E	15	5	6	21	5	6	18	28	15	14	134
TOTAL	164	96	68	71	88	84	120	150	143	155	1079

**BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED
BY WEAPON TYPE AND YEAR
1980 THROUGH 1989**

	GUN	KNIFE	HANDS,FISTS FEET,ETC.	OTHER	TOTAL
1980	10	11	24	59	104
1981	10	6	23	57	96
1982	5	6	14	43	68
1983	7	4	21	39	71
1984	6	12	36	34	88
1985	7	3	43	31	84
1986	6	14	25	75	120
1987	17	12	13	108	150
1988	16	18	4	105	143
1989	21	15	5	114	155

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED
BY WEAPON TYPE AND AREA
1980 VERSUS 1989

	GUN		KNIFE		HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC.				OTHER		TOTAL		PERCENT CHANGE
	1980	1989	1980	1989	1980	1989	1980	1989	1980	1989	1980	1989	
1	4	0	4	0	3	0	6	6			17	6	-64.71%
7	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	2			3	4	33.33%
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3			0	3	300.00%
A	4	1	5	1	4	0	7	11			20	13	-35.00%
2	2	11	3	8	6	1	12	36			23	56	143.48%
3	1	3	0	1	2	0	7	10			10	14	40.00%
B	3	14	3	9	8	1	19	46			33	70	112.12%
6	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	6			3	6	100.00%
11	2	3	1	1	3	1	13	19			19	24	26.32%
C	2	3	1	1	4	1	15	25			22	30	36.36%
4	0	2	0	2	1	3	9	15			10	22	120.00%
14	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	5			4	6	50.00%
D	1	2	1	3	3	3	9	20			14	28	100.00%
5	0	1	1	0	2	0	4	5			7	6	-14.29%
13	0	0	0	1	3	0	5	7			8	8	0.00%
E	0	1	1	1	5	0	9	12			15	14	-6.67%
TOTAL	10	21	11	15	24	5	59	114			104	155	49.04%

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED
BY WEAPON TYPE AND AREA
1988 VERSUS 1989

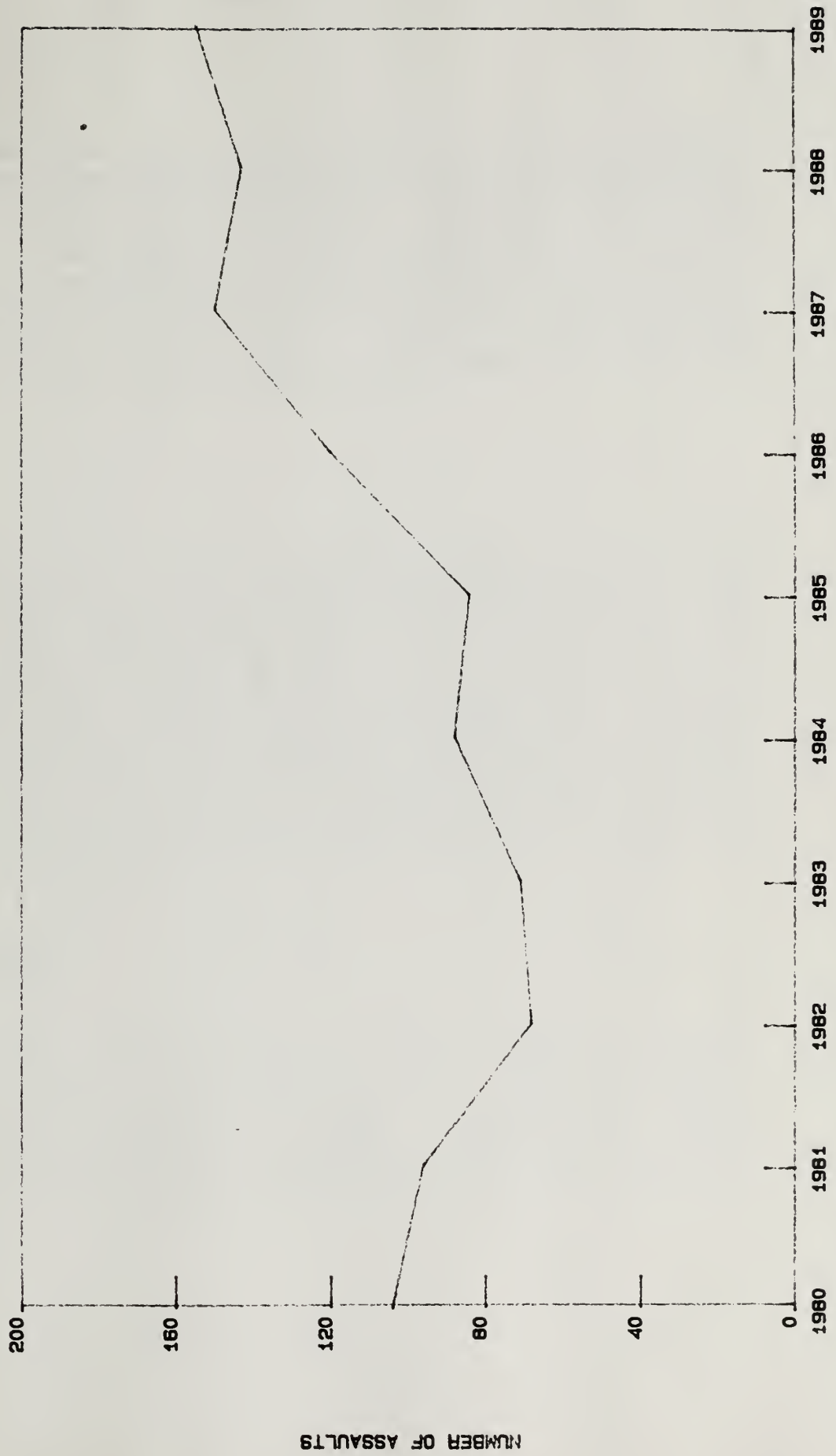
	GUN		KNIFE		HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC.			OTHER		TOTAL		PERCENT CHANGE
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989		
1	0	0	3	0	1	0	14	6	18	6	-66.67%	
7	0	1	2	1	0	0	6	2	8	4	-50.00%	
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	3	50.00%	
A	0	1	5	1	1	0	22	11	28	13	-53.57%	
2	4	11	4	8	1	1	30	36	39	56	43.59%	
3	4	3	3	1	0	0	18	10	25	14	-44.00%	
B	8	14	7	9	1	1	48	46	64	70	9.38%	
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	4	6	50.00%	
11	2	3	3	1	1	1	9	19	15	24	60.00%	
C	2	3	3	1	1	1	13	25	19	30	57.89%	
4	0	2	2	2	0	3	13	15	15	22	46.67%	
14	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	5	2	6	200.00%	
D	0	2	3	3	0	3	14	20	17	28	64.71%	
5	1	1	0	0	1	0	5	5	7	6	-14.29%	
13	5	0	0	1	0	0	3	7	8	8	0.00%	
E	6	1	0	1	1	0	8	12	15	14	-6.67%	
TOTAL	16	21	18	15	4	5	105	114	143	155	8.39%	

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED

1980 THROUGH 1989

OF ASSAULTS



L.E.O.K.A.

WEAPON

Of the one hundred and sixty-six (166) assaults of Boston Police Officers reported through LEOKA in 1989, ninety-one percent (91%) were in the category of hands, fists, and feet. Three percent (3%) of the assaults were committed with a knife, and six percent (6%) of the assaults were in the category of other dangerous weapons in 1989. A misleading statistic is the number of assaults with firearms. According to LEOKA (Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted) reports, only one assault with a firearm on a police officer occurred in 1989 while the computer system has on record twenty-one (21) assaults on assault and batteries with a firearm on police officers in 1989.

CIRCUMSTANCE

The circumstance that resulted in the greatest number of assaults on Boston Police Officers in 1989 occurred when attempting arrests. This type of circumstance accounted for forty-three percent (43%) of the assaults. The next most frequent circumstance that led to an assault on a police officer involved disturbance calls (which most often include domestic disturbances) which resulted in twelve percent (12%) of assaults in 1989. Seven percent (7%) of the assaults occurred while making traffic pursuits and stops. Responding to robberies or burglaries in progress, or pursuing of such suspects accounted for eight percent (8%) of assaults in 1989. Handling or transporting prisoners in custody accounted for five percent (5%) of the assaults and the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of assaults took place while the officers were performing various other duties.

TYPES OF ASSIGNMENT

Sixty-two percent (62%) of assaults in 1989 were reported by officers assigned to two person vehicles. Nineteen percent (19%) of officers assaulted were assigned to one-officer vehicles, five percent (5%) of officers assaulted were on detective or special assignment, and fifteen percent (15%) were performing other duties. Of the total number of assaults on Boston Police Officers in 1989, eighty-five percent (85%) of those officers assaulted were assisted by a fellow officer.

TIME OF DAY

The time period of 12 a.m. to 4 a.m. included the most dangerous hours to work for a Boston Police Officer in 1989. This four hour time period accounted for thirty-one percent (31%) of the assaults, while the four hour time span of 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. accounted for twenty-five percent (25%) of the assaults. This eight hour period accounted for fifty-six percent (56%) of the assaults. From 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., thirty-one percent (31%) of assaults on police officers were reported. The remaining thirteen percent (13%) of assaults occurred in the 4 a.m. to 12 p.m. time period.

**BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
KILLED OR ASSAULTED
BY WEAPON TYPE AND MONTH
1989**

	FIREARM	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS	HANDS FISTS FEET, ETC.	TOTAL
JANUARY	0	0	2	13	15
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	8	8
MARCH	0	0	0	9	9
APRIL	0	0	1	18	19
MAY	0	1	1	17	19
JUNE	0	0	0	10	10
JULY	1	1	0	4	6
AUGUST	0	3	3	13	19
SEPTEMBER	0	0	0	20	20
OCTOBER	0	0	0	15	15
NOVEMBER	0	0	2	15	17
DECEMBER	0	0	0	9	9
TOTAL	1	5	9	151	166

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

KILLED OR ASSAULTED

BY WEAPON TYPE AND CIRCUMSTANCE

1989

	FIREARM	KNIFE OR OTHER CUTTING INSTRUMENT	OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS	HANDS FISTS FEET, ETC.	TOTAL
DISTURBANCE CALLS FAMILY QUARRELS, MAN W/GUN, ETC.	0	0	0	20	20
BURGLARIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING BURGLARY SUSPECT	0	0	1	6	7
ROBBERIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING ROBBERY SUSPECT	0	0	0	6	6
ATTEMPTING OTHER ARRESTS	1	4	2	64	71
CIVIL DISORDER I.E., RIOT, MASS DIOBEDIENCE	0	0	0	2	2
HANDLING, TRANSPORTING CUSTODY OF PRISONERS	0	0	0	8	8
INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS PERSONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES	0	1	0	5	6
AMBUSH-NO WARNING	0	0	2	0	2
MENTALLY DERANGED	0	0	0	5	5
TRAFFIC PURSUITS AND STOPS	0	0	1	10	11
ALL OTHER	0	0	3	25	28
TOTAL	1	5	9	151	166

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

KILLED OR ASSAULTED

ASSIGNMENT AND CIRCUMSTANCE

1989

	TWO-OFFICER VEHICLE	ONE-OFFICER VEHICLE		DETECTIVE/SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	OTHER		TOTAL
		ALONE	ASSISTED		ALONE	ASSISTED	
DISTURBANCE CALLS							
FAMILY QUARRELS, MAN W/ GUN, ETC.	18	1	1	0	0	0	20
BURGLARIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING BURGLARY							
SUSPECT	6	1	0	0	0	0	7
ROBBERIES IN PROGRESS OR PURSUING ROBBERY							
SUSPECT	2	2	0	1	0	1	6
ATTEMPTING OTHER							
ARRESTS	48	5	9	1	2	3	71
CIVIL DISORDER							
I.E., RIOT, MASS							
DISOBEDIENCE	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
HANDLING, TRANSPORTING							
CUSTODY OF PRISONERS	0	0	2	0	1	5	8
INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS PERSONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES	4	0	1	0	0	1	6
AMBUSH-NO WARNING	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
MENTALLY DERANGED	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
TRAFFIC PURSUITS							
AND STOPS	5	3	2	0	0	1	11
ALL OTHER	13	2	2	1	5	4	28
TOTAL	102	14	17	3	8	17	166

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
KILLED OR ASSAULTED
1989

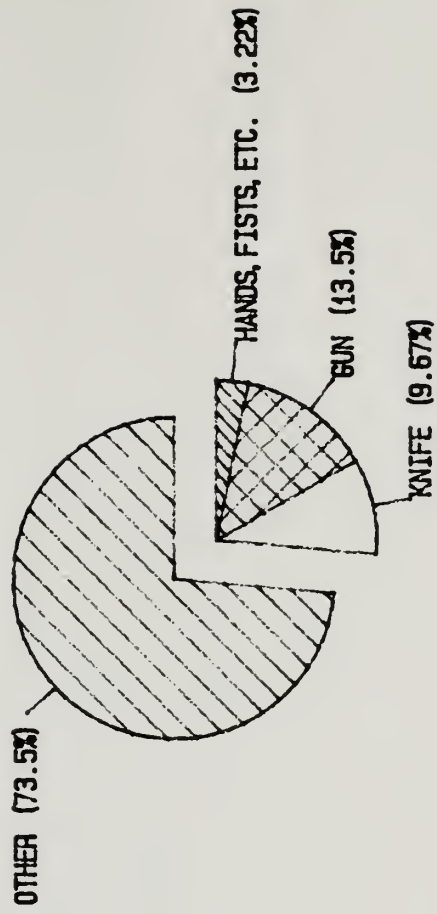
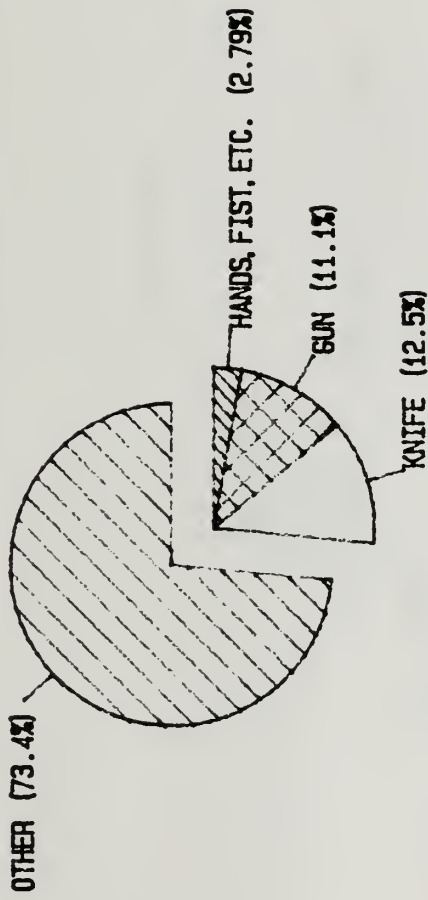
	AREA A	AREA B	AREA C	AREA D	AREA E	OTHER	TOTAL
JANUARY	2	2	4	4	3	0	15
FEBRUARY	4	0	1	2	1	0	8
MARCH	2	6	1	0	0	0	9
APRIL	10	4	3	2	0	0	19
MAY	1	6	4	3	5	0	19
JUNE	3	1	2	2	2	0	10
JULY	0	1	3	1	0	1 *	6
AUGUST	4	7	1	7	0	0	19
SEPTEMBER	5	5	6	1	3	0	20
OCTOBER	4	4	1	4	0	2 **	15
NOVEMBER	7	3	0	7	0	0	17
DECEMBER	0	2	2	1	4	0	9
TOTAL	42	41	28	34	18	3	166

* Training and Education.

** Special Operations (Operation Rescue).

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED

BY WEAPON TYPE, 1988 VERSUS 1989

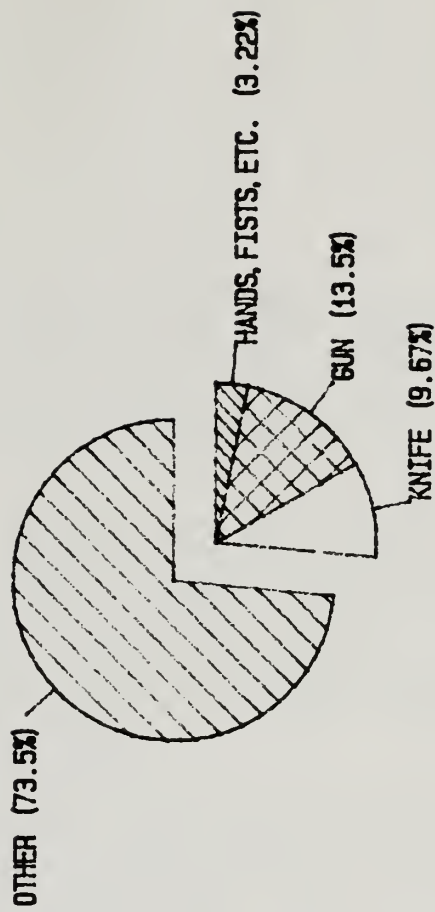
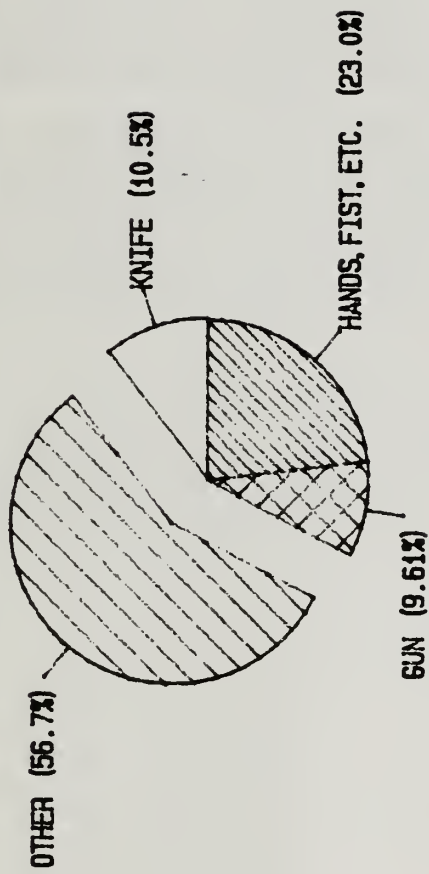


* TOP CHART REFLECTS 1988 ASSAULTS

* BOTTOM CHART REFLECTS 1989 ASSAULTS

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED

BY WEAPON TYPE, 1980 VERSUS 1989



* TOP CHART REFLECTS 1980 ASSAULTS

* BOTTOM CHART REFLECTS 1989 ASSAULTS

BOSTON POLICE OFFICERS KILLED

The first record of a Boston Police Officer being killed in the line of duty was in 1857 when Officer Ezekiel W. Hodsdon was shot and killed while attempting an arrest. Since then sixty-four (64) Boston Police Officers have been killed while performing their duties as police officers for the city of Boston. Four of the sixty-four line of duty deaths occurred during the three year period from 1987 to 1989.

Four Boston Police Officers have been killed in the line of duty in the ten year period from 1980 to 1989. These were the first line of duty deaths reported since 1976. Detective Roy J. Sergei was ruthlessly gunned down on Commonwealth Avenue in Area D on October 2, 1987. While preparing to search a suspicious person on a domestic violence call, a barrage of gunfire came from under the suspect's coat, wounding Officer Sergei and wounding his partner, Officer Jorge L. Torres. Detective Sergei succumbed to his wounds on October 26, 1987.

In 1988 two Boston Police Officers were killed in the line of duty, both in the month of February. On February 10, 39 year old Detective Thomas J. Gill was struck and killed by a train while searching for an individual in possession of stolen property. Eight days later Detective Sherman C. Griffiths, a member of the Drug Control Unit, was fatally shot through an apartment door while he was executing a no-knock drug search warrant.

August 27, 1989 marked the death of Officer Louis H. Metaxas of the Team Police Unit. Metaxas was the fourth Boston Police Officer to be killed in the last three years of the 1980's. Officer Metaxas, while investigating a report of a prowler on a rooftop, was charged by a dog and fell from the rooftop.

